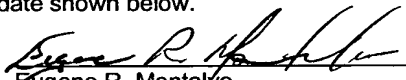


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.

  
Eugene R. Montalvo  
Date: 7 Nov 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	)	
	)	
Douwe J. Runia and Eugene A. Murphy	)	
	)	
Serial No. 10/712,924	)	Group Art Unit: 3672
	)	
Filed: 13 November 2003	)	Examiner: Daniel P Stephenson
	)	
DRILLING A BOREHOLE	)	7 November, 2006
	)	
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS		
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 10 March 2006**

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicant in the above-captioned application hereby responds to the Office Action mailed 11 August 2006. At the time the Office Action issued, claims 1 to 18 were pending.